

# The Hour

"keeps up with Hitler to the minute"

A news-letter issued by the American Council Against Nazi Propaganda, Inc.

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## NEW SIDELIGHTS ON THE METTIN CASE

On June 15, in its issue Number 4, The Hour asked the question "Is Bund's Treasurer Dead?" and broke the news of a thorough sifting of Richard J. Mettin's strange case by Commissioner William B. Herlands of the New York City Department of Investigation. At this writing the investigation still continues, and the mystery is not yet solved. Since June 15 the following new facts have been made known to The Hour:

In mid-April, when the investigation of the financial affairs of the German-American Bund was at its most persistent point, a fire occurred in the home of Richard J. Mettin at 29 Norwood Avenue, Staten Island. The fire, alleged to have been of spontaneous origin, caused small damage to the house, but newspapers, books, and, to quote a local policeman, "a lot of other papers of some damn kind" went up in flames. In this connection it is recalled that in April only three small lodgers were produced by the Bund officials in response to Herlands' first subpoena. The Bundites tried to tell Herlands that these were all the books ever kept. Later, when the Commissioner pressed his demand, a meager few more books were produced, but the rest of the records never did materialize.

The Hour also learns that the ashes of the "Richard J. Mettin" who died in St. Vincent's Hospital on Staten Island on May 18 were promptly sent to Germany.

On June 25, after The Hour made public the mystery of the Mettin case, Kuhn's Deutscher Weckruf und Beobachter front-paged its frantic denial of any mystery in the treasurer's case. Its denial had a seven-column headline: "Jewish Persecution in New Guise." Although the June 15 statements of The Hour were used by the United Press and the general American press, Kuhn's papers completely disregarded all these channels and concentrated its attack-denial on the Jewish Examiner of Brooklyn which also happened to carry our data.

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## CANADIAN NAZI-FASCISTS PLAN TO INFLUENCE FEDERAL ELECTIONS

"Fuehrer" Adrien Arcand Will Tour the Dominion -- His Bloc  
Has Been Losing Ground

(Special to The Hour)

TORONTO, July 9--With an eye on the coming federal elections, Nazi agents in Canada are working to build a bloc of 500,000 Canadians of German origin and to link this bloc with the National Unity (Fascist) Party, the Italian fascists and other national groups. Their aim is to influence the election of a government that will in its foreign policy be friendly to the Axis powers, and will pursue at home a policy of a concentrated attack against the "Red Menace."

For the purpose of uniting the fascist forces, Adrien Arcand, the "fuehrer" of the National Unity Party, is to tour the country. On the way he is to pay special attention to the province of Saskatchewan with its population of 162,000 Canadians of German origin out of a total population of 921,000.

## Anti-Nazi Demonstration of French-Canadians

The Nazi-fascist bloc is coming up against an aroused people. Even in the province of Quebec, where the local government encourages the dissemination of Nazi and fascist propaganda, Arcand is losing ground. On his recent visit to the city of Quebec, he was met by a demonstration of 4,000 French-Canadians shouting, "We don't want Nazi agents here." It is such sentiment that has forced Premier Duplessis to resort to raids on the Nazi "Harmonia" Club and to unpublicised raids on homes of Nazi leaders. It is reliably reported that at the home of one Nazi leader, important correspondence, codes and other incriminating materials were found. The people of Quebec demand stronger action against Arcand groups that drill in preparation for "The Day," and against Arcand himself who still retains the position of editor on Duplessis' semi-official paper, L'Illustration Nouvelle.

## Canadian Legion Opposes Totalitarians

In addition to the labor groups, the Canadian Legion membership is participating actively in the fight against the Nazis. Legion branches from all parts of the country have called for the suppression of the Nazi Party, the German Bund, and the Deutsche Zeitung fuer Canada. Legion members have stopped meetings of the Bund and have prevented the showing of Nazi films. On June 24, the Manitoba Bund was forced to resort to a last-minute change of the hall, in which they were to celebrate German Day, because the Legion withdrew permission previously granted to the Bund for the use of its premises. In St. Walburg, Sask., the Legion headed the parade of welcome to the first group of Sudeten refugees. For this, it was strongly attacked in the Deutsche Zeitung fuer Canada, to which the Legion sent the following reply in the form of a letter to all newspapers: "If certain classes of Germans do not like our actions, said actions do not apply to



all Germans, some of whom are excellent citizens; these certain classes can go back to Germany. Our actions are directed against those who support Nazism... We ourselves fought in the last war to uphold this country and democracy and we will do so again..."

With such popular anti-Nazi sentiment developing in Canada, the Federal Minister of Justice, the Honorable Ernest Lapointe, announced in the House of Commons that naturalization papers of certain Nazi propagandists may be revoked. On June 29, reports from Ottawa disclosed that a number of government departments are studying ways and means of stopping the flow of Nazi literature from Germany, action being made difficult by the fact that Nazi consulates are involved.

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#### SILVER SHIRTS COME EAST

The Silver Shirts, fascist organization headed by William Dudley Pelley, have come to the Eastern states.

Never before reported on this side of the Allegheny Mountains, this native fascist group has opened new regional headquarters in the town of Newburgh, New York, and has begun an intensive recruiting drive in New England as well as in the Empire state.

Newburgh was picked as the Eastern headquarters by Pelley because of old associations: at the turn of the decade the North Carolina "Goateed Fuehrer" had spent two years in this small town on the Hudson. He is known to many residents of the area, and so is convinced that Newburgh would be a logical port of entry for his Shirts into the East.

The Hour finds that the freshly formed Newburgh chapter of the Shirts is made up largely of the remnants of a once-strong Ku Klux membership in these parts. At Walden, N. Y., a stone's throw from Newburgh, there are a few more Kluxers now following Pelley. Sundry Coughlinites, a few Christian-Fronters, and the inevitable sprinkling of German-American Bundites complete the chapter's tableau. A small lunchroom, dingy in exterior, is the "front" for the headquarters. Floyd Grey, a rangy red-faced man of about 50, runs both the lunchroom and the Silver Shirt chapter. In the rear of the store is a powerful radio, equipped with short-wave receivers, and a spacious room for meetings. Grey maintains a large supply of Shirts' literature, which these days specializes in vicious attacks on President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, and other key figures in the United States government.

Grey boasts of a local membership of 3,000, and says: "We're growing every minute." Local civic authorities discount this claim heavily. However, the chapter does have members, and its very appearance in the region foretells Pelley's plans of expansion.

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## THE BALANCE OF SCALES BELOW THE RIO GRANDE

Nazis Are Thwarted, But Not Yet Decisively

By CARLETON BEALS

(Special to The Hour)

Late in June a four-motor German air-clipper arrived in Buenos Aires. It made the flight from the Reich in forty hours -- actually in thirty-four hours of flying time. A similar passenger ship of Pan American Airways makes a trip from the States to Buenos Aires in six days. Such is the vivid reminder that much of the South American continent is closer by air and sea to Europe than it is to leading ports of North America. It is also a reminder that the Nazis are not lessening their drive for the trade and resources of the southern countries.

Latin America is the world's only great trading area aside from the Balkans not exclusively controlled in some form or other by one or another of the major powers. Inevitably totalitarian efforts are canalized in that direction. It may be a source of satisfaction to us that the position of the United States is very good, that we have in fact slightly increased our percentage of the total export trade to the southern countries. But the German increase has been phenomenal. Despite minor setbacks, it still continues -- mostly at the expense of England.

## German Trade as A Punitive Weapon

Unfortunately, what should be normal trade, benefiting not only the Reich but the world, is today a punitive weapon, an instrument of ideological and political penetration -- of war. The Nazis not only make an effort to regiment their own nationals, so numerous in Latin America, but use every economic leverage to influence the natives and their governments. The aims are clear: to foment class and race hatreds, and so create internal tensions, which can be utilized at any moment to cause disorders; to use national jealousies and local power politics, and so set the countries against one another. This means a constant drain on Latin American budgets for war supplies -- which the Reich is anxious to barter for Latin American raw materials. This paves the way, in case of war, to a situation where the Reich, even if unable to secure Latin American allies, will be able to start local revolutions and little wars which would effectively block supplies from reaching England and France.

## The Nazi Seesaw of Losses and Gains

In such efforts the Reich has been somewhat thwarted by prideful nationalism and popular resentment below the Rio Grande, also by the efforts of our State Department and other official American agencies. In Ecuador, the new regime is finding graft in the acquisition of worthless Italian arms and in various improper Nazi deals. In Nicaragua, the not-too-savoury Somoza abandoned the Italians to court Washington. In Salvador, new regulations have been imposed against Nazi organizations. Though



German exports to Brazil apparently still outdistance our own, foreign leadership there has to a large extent passed to the United States. General Goes Monteiro, recently invited to our country in competition with a Nazi invitation, was an out-and-out fascist in his views. Enamored of the Italian system, he was closely linked with the now outlawed Green Shirts of Brazil. Perhaps he has been converted to democracy. But with our financial credits to Brazil and other eager efforts to wean her away from the totalitarian orbit, we have willy-nilly sent piqued Argentina, commercially the most important South American country, the other way. And this has meant greater Nazi influence in her satellite country, Bolivia. New Nazi and Italian barter deals have been arranged at Buenos Aires and La Paz. The recent trial concerning an alleged Nazi plot to annex Patagonia ended in a whitewash of Hitler's agents.

#### Dubious Role of Some American Corporations

The Nazis still have the most potent air service on the southern continent and are constantly improving their schedules, gaining new concessions, and thus winning increased cargoes and more passengers. Of late, many large American corporations, controlling raw materials in the sister-republics, have been drawn into the German barter system: increasingly such companies are getting their necessary machinery, chemicals and other supplies from the Nazi Reich. This is, indeed, the saddest straw in the southern wind.

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#### HITLER WILL SEND TRADE DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON

A trade delegation is being sent to the United States by Hitler's government. It is due to arrive in Washington toward the end of August. The news of this step is being kept from the press by Goebbels until the time comes for the delegates to sail. Heartened by the arms embargo action in Congress, which the Nazis regard as an encouragement to aggression, Hitler and Company now hope that the next feat of the handful of their American well-wishers will be to agitate for better trade relations with the Reich. They believe that such agitation would progress far enough by the end of August to pave the way for their delegation. They anticipate the cold shoulder from Cordell Hull, and do not expect any actual trade improvement as the result of the delegates' trip, but the Nazis' main aim is creating political embarrassment to the Roosevelt administration. This they trust to achieve to a sizable degree whether or not trade is really improved.

A trial balloon was managed recently by Goebbels when a delegation of Nazi German editors, visiting Japan, was ordered to return to the Reich not by way of the Indian Ocean but via the United States. Goebbels wanted thus to test the American reaction to Hitler's official delegates. He found that these delegates were not booed and shooed out when the news of their presence in the country was kept out of the general press and therefore remained unknown to the general American public.

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## SWASTIKA OVER THE SHAMROCK?

Facts and Forces Behind the Recent Terrorism of the  
Irish Republican Army

By MICHAEL SAYERS

(Special to The Hour)

Nazi penetration of Ireland followed the usual pattern. As in Austria, Czechoslovakia, Palestine, Poland and South America, the Nazis found real national grievances which they could exploit, and certain traitorous and reactionary elements within the nation which they could utilize. The closer cooperation of Germany and Italy enabled the Nazis to go ahead in Ireland with greater ease -- a message from Catholic Rome sounds better in Irish ears than incitements from Berlin.

Secret relations between the German government and the Irish rebels were established as far back as 1908. Open relations between the German government and an Irish government were established in the 1920s. During these years, after the Civil War, there was much talk in Ireland of a project to utilize the water power of the Shannon River to supply cheap electricity for the new industries which the new rulers of Ireland were organizing. Cosgrave's conservative Irish Free State government showed its independence of its English advisers by handing over the "Shannon Scheme," as they called it, to Siemens-Schuckert, a German firm. A colony of German engineers settled in Ireland; so that, upon Hitler's triumph, he found tangible links already formed between Berlin and Dublin. Unpredictably, the famous "Shannon Scheme" of the pro-English conservative Free State government brought ancient Holy Ireland directly within the orbit of the new and definitely Unholy Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis.

In 1933 the first Fascist Party was organized in Ireland under the leadership of General O'Duffy, a disgruntled former Dublin police-chief and supporter of the conservative Cosgrave. O'Duffy called for a Corporate State after the Italian style. He directed his rather shrill thunder against British Imperialism, Irish radicalism (represented by De Valera who was contesting Cosgrave for the Presidency), Communism, of course, and something which O'Duffy vaguely referred to at that time as "International Finance." A few years before, O'Duffy had gone to school with Streicher and Goebbels. Now he came forth as the apostle of Irish Catholic Christianity. He was an anti-Semite. Suddenly a "Jewish problem" appeared in Ireland. O'Duffy "exposed" Jewish money-lending, Jewish "seductions" of Irish Catholic girls, British-Jewish Jazz, Imperialism, Communism, etc. etc. Money flowed in from nowhere, apparently, to support O'Duffy's Blue Shirts, also newspapers and magazines dedicated to the glorification of the "Christian" ideal of the Corporate State and anti-Semitism.

Using the same tactics which Hitler had found so successful in Germany - uniforms, salutes, drills, leaders, provocations, lies, brutality - the Blue Shirts made such a nuisance of themselves that finally, af-



ter De Valera had been voted into office, the progressive government outlawed them. O'Duffy and his followers vanished from the Irish scene amid catcalls and laughter.

#### Coughlinite Relatives in America and Economic Crisis at Home

But two factors contributed to resuscitate the Irish Fascist farce in a more serious setting. The first of these two factors had nothing to do with internal Irish affairs -- it sprang directly from the politico-economic development of the United States. These years saw the growth of the Coughlinite movement in America, and the Coughlinite movement took hold of the Irish in America, whose ties with their relatives at home have always been close ones.

Meanwhile, back in Ireland, the second factor was operating to make the Irish political soil fertile for Nazism. The economic crisis, consequent upon the Civil War, was deepening and becoming more severe. Unemployment was increasing. The farmers were bankrupted by the ruinous economic war waged by England. A general national decline had set in as a result of the artificial separation of the industrial North, which had remained an English colony. Once again anti-English feeling rose high, and the complete independence of Ireland was demanded by all classes. The De Valera government hoped to gain this end through diplomatic maneuvering. De Valera counted on the international situation, which made it essential for England to have a friendly Ireland at her backdoor. Skilfully playing on English fears, De Valera succeeded in winning political independence; the form of English rule was abolished, Ireland became Eire; but the substance of English rule remained in the form of "Ulster" -- six counties in Northern Ireland still tied to the British Empire. De Valera now concentrated all his efforts on the return of "Ulster" into Eire.

But De Valera's diplomacy moved too slowly for certain oldtime Irish leaders. They were the men who had always preferred dynamite to diplomacy. From America came the slogans of Coughlin-Nazism and the tactics of provocations, incitements, demagogy. Coughlin-influenced members of the underground Irish Republican Army began to advocate anti-Semitism as a counter to the class-struggle policies of James Connolly which were beginning to attract the Irish peasants and workers. Nazi agents stirred the broth, and incited to active anti-English terrorism.

The result of this was a split in the old revolutionary organization which had led the national struggle in 1916 and 1922. The majority of the IRA repudiated the fascist tactics and went back to the teachings of Connolly, demanding a united front between Irish, Anglo-Irish and English workers against War and Fascism. A minority of the IRA succumbed to Nazism and the preachings of their American Coughlinite relatives.

#### Sweeping Conclusions Should be Avoided

There is no doubt that the Nazis, directly and indirectly through the American Coughlinite movement, have considerable influence in modern Ireland. But it would be a mistake to conclude that the Irish nationalist movement is manufactured in Germany, or that the IRA is financed and con-

trolled by Nazi agents. The Chamberlain government has sought to further its own ends by publicizing the charge of Nazi interference in Eire. The Chamberlain government uses this charge to camouflage its own campaign of terrorism against the Irish nationalists in "Ulster," to discredit De Valera, and also to convince a sceptical English public that the reign of "appeasement" is over and active anti-Nazi work is being carried on. The Irish nationalist movement today is an expression of real grievances; and if certain Irish nationalists, made desperate by their conditions, fall into the hands of Nazi agents, the fault lies not in their desperation but in the conditions which have made them desperate. Chamberlain has the remedy in his own hands. The way to end Nazi interference in Eire is to stop Nazism and to satisfy the legitimate grievances of the Irish people.

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## EPIDEMIC OF DESERTIONS HITS NAZI EAST PRUSSIAN TROOPS

### Soldiers Slated for Danzig Duty Openly Rebellious

BERLIN (via Paris), July 5--An epidemic of desertions is sweeping the ranks of the German Reich's army in East Prussia. In the Koenigsberg fortress located to the east of Danzig Bay, nine men were shot after trial by martial law. The nine included a corporal, a lance corporal and seven privates who were in the communications section stationed at Ponarth.

The army order of the day speaks of "dishonoring of the entire garrison by oath-breaking desertion."

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## HITLER CELEBRATES "DAY OF GERMAN ART"

At Munich, on July 14-16, the Nazis are celebrating "the Day of German Art," the main feature of which is a four-mile procession, depicting the history of Germany's art.

The celebration comes close on the heels of the recent sale to foreign museums and collectors by the Nazis of some of the best modern art from the Reich's galleries as "unworthy of Hitler's people." The Hour also learns that there are today in German concentration camps 48 painters whose art has been confiscated. The Paris organization of the refugee German artists lists 422 painters, sculptors and musicians in exile from Hitler's "blessings." Associated Refugee Artists Guild of America has 250 members in New York, and more than 100 in Hollywood. As to the musicians included in the Paris figure, these are concert artists who appeared on exclusive billing; in addition to them, there are in exile several thousands of pianists and members of orchestras who appeared on group billing. Of singers in exile there are known to be more than 150. Of writers, almost 700 names have so far been counted, including many world-wide celebrities. German-American Writers' Association alone has over 130 members who are recent exiles. The number of writers known to have been murdered by the Nazis exceeds 40.

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## GERMAN BARONS AS SWEDISH MILKMEN

Hitler Sends Disguised Agents to Northern Countries-  
They "Work" on Estates Near Important Airdromes

Recent military and diplomatic maneuvers have emphasized the vital significance of the northern countries in European and world affairs. Sweden is among the principal suppliers of iron ore and foodstuffs to Germany. The Hour presents the following article by its Stockholm correspondent who describes the methods used by the Nazi government to gain a foothold in Sweden.

STOCKHOLM, July 2, 1939

Further proofs of growing Nazi activities were recently revealed in this country when public attention was drawn to a remarkable appearance of German "farm laborers" on the estates in the vicinity of Swedish airdromes.

Curious circumstances came to light in the course of an investigation undertaken by several democratic newspapers, among them a governmental organ. The investigation disclosed that German milkers are to be found at almost all large estates near Stockholm; also at Spanga, where one of Sweden's largest radio stations is situated; as well as at Barkaby, an important airdrome; and at a number of other places of more or less significance from the military viewpoint.

## Expensive Cars of "Underpaid Farm-Hands"

An odd fact is that many of these farm-hands from the Reich possess good cameras, splendid radios, and expensive cars. Recently, one such German milker, Emil Bushlmann, crashed while driving his automobile, badly wrecking the car in a ditch. The very next day he was driving another car, a brand-new Opel. Since these Germans are supposed to be "very cheap labor" and ostensibly on these grounds have displaced many Swedish farm women who used to do all the milking around here, the newcomers' sumptuous automobiles give rise to much suspicion. There is an obvious divergence between the wages of the German milkers and the grand manner of their living.

## Nazi Method of Gaining Confidence

A first-hand description of these strange farm-hands has been given for The Hour by a Stockholm laborer who worked in close proximity with one of the German milkers:

"At first the German tried to appear as a severe critic of the Nazi regime in the Reich. By and by, however, I came to understand that he maintained this attitude in order to gain my confidence or because he wanted me to show my own convictions. It was soon plain that he was a Nazi zealot. For some time he imagined he found in me a willing adept

for his cause. He tried to enlist me in the brown army -- make a Nazi of me."

#### Spies Are Trained to Milk Cows

"During our frequent talks I came to know some of his personal history. He told me that the German press service had noticed the shortage of farm laborers in Scandinavian countries, and the Nazis decided to use this lack as an easy door for their spies and propagandists. A special course was started to teach these agents how to milk cows and do other farm work. On graduating some were sent to Sweden, others to Denmark. So, having finished this training course, he came here. He showed me his papers which proved that besides being a baron he was also an officer in the German army and had a diploma from a commercial university (higher school of business). On one occasion he confided to me that he did not trust the Swedish postal system with his letters but always sent them through the German consulate in Stockholm. One thing stood out above all: the baron-milkman owned a better radio set than any I have ever seen."

#### Swedish People Demand Strong Counter-Measures

The Germans on the different estates maintain close relations with one another. On special occasions they come together for conferences. Such a conference was called when the first warning about these Nazi "farm-hands" was sounded in the Swedish press. Some of their employers must know their identity. The landlords, who shelter them, arranged a peculiar working day for these disguised agents of Hitler: the men are free between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., and they are using this time for their far-reaching excursions in the provinces.

The Swedish public is demanding from its slow-moving government the adoption of strong and immediate measures to combat this dangerous invasion. Among the questions that the Swedes of various classes ask of their government is this one: How come that Nazi Germany is in a position to send farm-hands to Sweden when it has been known for quite some time to experience lack of just such category of laborers and to import such workers from other countries?

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#### NAZIS CLAIM DANISH SCHLESWIG DESPITE PACT OF NON-AGGRESSION

COPENHAGEN, July 1--German Nazis continue their clamor for Denmark's Schleswig. On June 29, three days after the German-Danish pact of non-aggression went into effect, Herr Moeller, the German Nazi leader in the Danish parliament, once more declared that Schleswig should belong to Germany. At Knivsbjerg, to a gathering of 10,000, Moeller said: "The border between people of the same race must vanish. Until the Fuehrer creates the great German Reich we still must watch our living conditions as Denmark affects them. In that sense we cannot be indifferent to the borders, especially as they are drawn now."